

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

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1. An implantable body fluid shunt device for providing fluid communication between body vessels of a patient, said device comprising:

a generally elongated shunt body having proximal and distal ends, said shunt body being formed of a rigid, biocompatible material;

said shunt body having:

a first proximal aperture and at least one second aperture longitudinally spaced along said shunt body from said first aperture; and

a diversion tube having a predetermined shape providing fluid communication between said first aperture and said at least one second aperture;

wherein, in use, said device is implanted in a patient such that said first aperture is disposed within a first vessel, and said at least one second aperture is disposed in a second vessel.

2. The implantable shunt device of Claim 1, wherein said shunt body further comprises a spike portion at a distal end thereof.

3. The implantable shunt device of Claim 1, wherein said shunt body further comprises expansible retention members at a distal end thereof.

4. The implantable shunt device of Claim 1, wherein said device provides transmyocardial blood perfusion, and wherein said second aperture is adjacent said distal end of said shunt body and in use is disposed within the left ventricle of a patient.

5. The implantable shunt device of Claim 4, wherein the first aperture is adjacent said proximal end of said shunt body and in use is disposed within a coronary artery of a patient.

6. The implantable shunt device of Claim 2, wherein the second aperture in use is situated within the coronary artery of a patient and wherein said spike portion is disposed within the myocardium.

7. The implantable shunt device of Claim 6, wherein the first aperture is adjacent said proximal end of said shunt body, wherein said first aperture is disposed within a venous or arterial graft.